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BUILDERS.

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NEW ALARM GIVES FIRE PROTECTION

Tube and Diaphragm Sup-plant Old Apparatus.

Fort Jay, Governors Island, New York Harbor, April 21.—The test of the newly installed air-alarm fire protection equipment at Governors Island, in New York Harbor, headquarters Department of the East, United States Army, furnishes striking proof of the need of replacing archaic fire protection methods with the creations of modern genius.

In just forty-two seconds from the time the test fire was started on the open dock, the alarm rang in. The garrison alarm was sounded according to the system long in vogue at the island, the location being announced through the telephone to company headquarters.

Gen. Frederick V. Grant, commanding Department of the East, before whom the test was made, believes the air-alarm solves the fire prevention as well as fire protection problem.

It is distinguished from others by the employment of an entirely new principle in automatic fire alarms. A small continuous alloy tube (1/8 inch in diameter) is distributed over the ceilings of the buildings to be protected. The ends of this tubing, on each floor, terminate in a case containing two diaphragms. Electric wires running from these cases control

on all the floors and an annunciator, placed at the entrance, or other prominent part of the building.

In the event of a fire in any section of the building, the rapid rise of heat on the ceiling, which is the result of the exposure of even a small quantity of flame, causes a corresponding expansion of the air in the tubing. This expanded air is carried through the tubing to the diaphragms at each of its ends, and causing them to expand, closes the electric circuit, which in turn operates the gongs and indicators on the annunciator the exact location of the fire.

BRISK DEMAND FOR LOTS.

Twenty-five Sales Made in Massachusetts Avenue Highlands.

Twenty-five lots have been sold during the week in Massachusetts Avenue Heights, bringing up the total sales of property since the subdivision was opened, April 2, to more than 200,000 square feet of ground. The sales reported yesterday by Thomas J. Fisher & Co. are as follows:

Perceval D. Emmert bought a fifty-foot lot on the west side of Thirty-sixth street, between Davis and Edmonds streets, and one between Edmonds and Fulton streets.

M. W. Ely bought a 100-foot frontage in Thirty-sixth place, between Fulton and Garfield streets.

Mrs. Josephine Neurath bought the lot at the northwest corner of Thirty-sixth and Edmonds streets, fronting 118 feet on the former and 125 feet on the latter.

Mrs. Elizabeth La Gorce bought a fifty-foot lot on the east side of Thirty-sixth place, between Davis and Edmonds streets.

J. William Henry bought a seventy-five-foot lot in Massachusetts avenue, just east of Thirty-fourth street.

Mrs. Theodore L. West bought a ninety-five-foot frontage on the west side of Thirty-sixth place at the corner of the alley.

George W. Z. Black bought the entire frontage on the west side of Thirty-sixth place, between Davis and Edmonds streets, comprising more than 40,000 square feet. He also bought a 200-foot frontage between Edmonds and Fulton streets.

Edgar D. Shaw bought the center lot between Thirty-fourth street and place, fronting fifty-one feet in Massachusetts avenue.

To Handle Pick.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 22.—E. S. McCullough, formerly international vice president of the United Mine Workers of America, has returned to Pittsburg, Pa., and says he will follow the example of President Lewis in again entering the mines as a common digger.

SUBURBAN ACTIVITY

Much New Construction at Fourteenth Street Terrace.

Active building operations have commenced in Fourteenth street terrace, the subdivision running north from Farragut street to the present terminus of the Fourteenth street car line and extending from Georgia avenue to Piney Branch road. Seven homes have been completed there and are already occupied, three more are in course of construction, and ground will be broken this week for as many more. These houses are of the detached or semi-detached type, and form a very pleasing addition to the many handsome homes that have been built in this section during the past few years.

In addition to these private residences, a \$45,000 schoolhouse will be erected by the District in Farragut street, and work will commence this week on the Dickson Memorial Home, which is to cost \$125,000 and which will be one of the ornamental buildings in Fourteenth street.

Fourteenth Street Terrace has been on the market but a short time, and all the streets have been graded and macadamized, sewer and water main laid, and the work of putting in wide granolithic sidewalks started, making this subdivision complete with city improvements. There has been a great demand for lots in this subdivision, both from home-seekers and those who are looking for an investment that will yield large profits within a reasonable length of time, and already more than 300,000 feet of ground has been sold here. Fully 60 per cent of this ground is either now or will be in the near future improved by the erection of handsome homes.

This subdivision is controlled by Robert E. Heater. In addition to this, Mr. Heater has on the market, under his exclusive control, the subdivision of Sixteenth Street Heights, comprising 327 acres of rolling, wooded land, and extending from Georgia avenue to Sixteenth street, and fronting one mile on the latter street. This is the largest subdivision ever placed upon the market, and possesses the unexcelled advantage of fronting on Rock Creek Park. The eastern end of Rock Creek Park forms the western boundary of Sixteenth street. Nothing can be built in front of the houses that may be erected on this magnificent boulevard in Sixteenth Street Heights.

Another new feature of suburban development in this subdivision is the laying off of the lots with a frontage of 50 to 100 feet, and a depth of 35 to 125 feet, to an alley, which will be a large lot and permits an entirely detached type of home. But one dwelling will be permitted on each lot.

This subdivision is being rapidly developed, the contract having been awarded for the grading and improvement of all the streets, and a large force is engaged in clearing up the trees and undergrowth throughout the entire tract, including the Sixteenth street frontage. As quickly as this work is completed the streets will be graded and prepared for the other improvements which will immediately follow.

This subdivision has many natural advantages possessed by few sections in the District of Columbia, owing to its location and its proximity to the city. The improvement of this property has just begun a number of lots in it have been sold.

Sixteenth Street Heights is the home of the late governor of the District, Alexander Shepherd, and the mansion in which Gov. Shepherd lived stands in a beautiful grove, comprising four acres of ground, which has been set aside by the syndicate owning the property.

This house, although built many years ago, is one of the most magnificent homes in the District. Wide halls run through the center and spacious rooms are located on either side. On the top floor is a handsome ballroom, and from the cupola a magnificent view of the surrounding country may be obtained. Mr. Heater has had a number of buyers from Washington, who desire to purchase this to-do people, who desire to purchase this to-do people.

CHICAGO'S CEMENT SUBURB.

With the purpose of erecting a concrete suburb of Chicago, similar to the successful new group of homes at Virginia Highlands, a contract has just been signed with E. A. Cummings & Co., the largest suburb operators of that city.

This system of pouring cement houses has attracted attention and interest all over this country and Europe. Plans are now in hand to start developments near most of the larger cities.

For many years builders and those interested in housing have recognized that the poured house must eventually solve the problem of inexpensive homes.

A Washington architect, Milton Dana Morrill, has appreciated the great opportunity in the use of re-enforced concrete for home building and to demonstrate his theory of pouring in steel molds, which is a new invention, has organized a garden suburb development at Virginia Highlands, where many of these houses have been built. They have proven healthy and durable and now work is being started on a broad basis in the new suburb across the river. It is proposed during the coming spring to build twenty of these houses.

The directors include the four above named and the following: Rev. Dr. Donald C. MacLeod, L. N. C. Cole, Edward Mullin, George C. Escher, Lawrence Huf, W. F. Thynson, S. A. Vervelen, E. E. Jackson, R. N. Jackson, and J. W. McNeill.

The amount of concrete that will be used in the Gatun locks of the Panama Canal would lay a six-foot sidewalk from New York to San Francisco and back to Chicago.

CLARENDON BOOMING.

W. G. Collins, the realty operator of Clarendon, Va., reports the following recent sales:

For Mrs. Della Schneider, house and one-quarter acre ground at Penrose, to Walter Torrance, of Washington, D. C.

For E. W. Ball, house and two lots at Ballston, to L. C. Dodd.

For Peter Lattner, two lots at Clarendon, to Miss Lillian E. Winder.

For E. A. Wilson, three Clarendon lots to Annie E. Tomlin, of Washington, D. C.

For George E. Redell, two Clarendon lots to Laura M. Folger.

For Molly M. Harrison, one-quarter acre of ground at Dominion Heights to C. C. Starke, of Washington, D. C.

For Aletha V. Gibson and Pauline G. Cullison, one Clarendon lot to Fannie Lee Stevens.

For George Straight, two Clarendon lots to Cecilia Kidwell.

For George W. Beall, one Clarendon lot to Fannie Lee Stevens.

For E. A. Wilson, two Clarendon lots to Charles A. Hutchins.

For William A. Buckley, house and two lots at Maryland Park, Md., to S. P. Wright.

For Peter Lattner, two lots at Clarendon to William H. Winder.

For T. A. Wilson, house and two lots at Clarendon, to Reynolds M. Preston, of Washington, D. C.

For Peter Lattner, two Clarendon lots to Anna M. Winder.

For S. P. Wright, house and an acre of ground at Barcroft to William A. Buckley.

HOME OF THE LATE GOV. ALEXANDER R. SHEPHERD



ON SIXTEENTH STREET HEIGHTS.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PLANS NEW YORK TRIP

Junket to the Metropolis by Sea Will Be the Annual Outing to Be Made Next Month.

Members of the Chamber of Commerce favor making this year's annual outing more extensive than any previous out-of-town trip.

The excursion committee's postal card inquiry has resulted, thus far, in fifty affirmations of the project to make New York the objective point of the trip, against twenty-two votes favorable to limiting the outing to Old Point Comfort, Va. Less than a dozen members have written that they could not participate in the jaunt this year.

The favored plan calls for an excursion to leave Washington via the Norfolk and Washington steamship line for Old Point Comfort May 15.

May 20 will be spent at Old Point, where a garden party in Fort Monroe, luncheon in the Hotel Chamberlin, and a ball game at Phoebus, Va., will fill the day's bill.

At 5 o'clock the excursionists will leave for Norfolk, from which point they will sail for New York on board the Old Dominion liner. Supper will be served and the night spent on the ocean.

Breakfast and luncheon will be taken on board the steamship, which is scheduled to dock at New York at 3 p. m. The afternoon in the metropolis will be spent in an automobile tour of the town, and at 6 p. m. the party will leave for Washington on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Arrangements have been effected with the transportation companies whereby the members of the organization may extend their stop-over in New York for ten days if they desire without additional expense.

On previous excursions of the Chamber of Commerce the parties have numbered from 100 to 125 members. Secretary Grant is hopeful of taking at least 150 members to New York.

WILL MANUFACTURE BRICK AND TILE

Company with \$100,000 Invested Has Organized.

An enterprise of magnitude and commercial importance, of which the public has so far heard but little, is just nearing completion at Thirty-eighth and U streets northeast. This is the extensive plant of the National Capital Clay Products Company for the manufacture of all kinds of brick and fireproof construction material. This plant is located immediately on the through lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, only a block from the Bladensburg road, and alongside the new electric car line from Fifteenth and H streets northeast to Bladensburg. The company making this important improvement owns twenty acres of valuable real estate surrounding its buildings.

The improvements so far made consist in the erection of a monument brick and hollow tile factory building, covering about one acre in extent, three stories high, and installing within it a full line of high-grade, up-to-date machinery, including steam shovel, large boilers, and engines, brick machines, dryers, conveyors, concrete mixer, bolsters, cars, &c., at a total cost of more than \$100,000.

The officers of the company are: Hugh J. Phillips, president; Dr. Charles P. Grandfield, first assistant; Pastmaster General, vice president; A. E. L. Locke, treasurer; Robert H. McNeill, secretary; George K. Denmark, assistant secretary.

The directorate includes the four above named and the following: Rev. Dr. Donald C. MacLeod, L. N. C. Cole, Edward Mullin, George C. Escher, Lawrence Huf, W. F. Thynson, S. A. Vervelen, E. E. Jackson, R. N. Jackson, and J. W. McNeill.

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